

1 **VI. CLAIMS**

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3 What is claimed is:

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5 1. A guard for wheels including a rim, comprising:

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- 7 A) a plurality of louvers having first and second surfaces and first
8 and second ends and each louver further including a pair of
9 parallel disposed track members longitudinally and radially
10 mounted on said first surface;
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- 12 B) a corresponding plurality of shaft members having third and
13 fourth ends and said shaft members being slidably received
14 within said track members;
- 15
- 16 C) housing means for pivotally receiving said third ends;
- 17
- 18 D) a plurality of first means for locking the relative position of
19 each of said shaft members with respect to said cooperating
20 track members; and
- 21
- 22 E) a plurality of second means for locking the relative angular
23 positions of said shaft members with respect to adjacent louvers
24 so that a user can selectively form an arch section to cover a
25 substantial portion of a rim.

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27 2. The guard set forth in claim 1 wherein said third fourth ends
28 are thereby forming a clearance between adjacent fourth ends.

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2 3. The guard set forth in claim 2 wherein said first means for
3 locking include spring biased lock members extending radially
4 inwardly from said track members and said shaft members including
5 cooperating notches for cammingly receiving said lock members
6 thereby keeping said shaft members at a relative position with
7 respect to said track members.

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9 4. The guard set forth in claim 3 wherein said second means for
10 locking include a lifted section in said shaft members and including a
11 protruding ball mounted thereon and said louvers further including
12 cooperating cavities for cammingly receiving said protruding balls
13 thereby keeping said shafts and louvers at relative angular
14 disposition to cover an arch for the different rim sizes.

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16 5. The guard set forth in claim 4 wherein the first and last of said
17 louvers include first and second handle members on said first and
18 second surfaces, respectively.

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20 6. The guard set forth in claim 5 wherein said housing means
21 includes an axle member mounted therethrough and said third ends
22 are pivotally mounted therein and said axle member extends
23 outwardly from said housing means, and further including handle
24 means mounted to said outwardly extending axle member.